

# DOLEN

YSGOL  
BRO  
TEIFI

Issue 5- 25th October 2024

*Headteacher's  
Message*

Welcome to October's issue of Dolen. At the end of a very busy half term, this is an opportunity for me to update you on some matters including changes to the school uniform from September 2025.

I will also share with you our school development priorities for the year ahead and share some ideas as to how you as parents and carers can support us to reach our goals. One important aspect that needs strengthening is pupil attendance in school. Unfortunately, we continue to see attendance which falls below expectations amongst some pupils, particularly from Year 10 upwards. Please remind your child of the importance of attending school regularly. Statistics show a clear link between good attendance in school and success in GCSE examination. Every day counts!

You will also learn about what our new pupil voice forums aim to achieve this year and there is an update on some changes to key dates due to the visit by Estyn in November. Remember about Estyn's meeting with parents and carers between 5 and 6 on Monday the 11th of November. Live translation facilities will be available.

Thank you once again for your support during the half term. I hope you have the opportunity to have a break over the half term holidays and I look forward to welcoming your child back on the 4th of November.

Sincerely,

*G Evans*



## Headteacher surgery appointment times

Tuesday Morning between 8.30 and 9.00 (3 x 10 minute slots)

Thursday Afternoons between 15:30 and 16:00 (3 x 10 minute slots)

To make an appointment, visit:



<https://www.ysgolbroteifi.cymru/info/v/93-gwnewch-apwyntiad-i-siarad-gyda-r-pennaeth/>

# CHANGE OF DATES!

I would like to draw your attention to the following changes to key dates during the year.

| Activity                                                            | Old Date       | New Date       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Year 11 Parents and Carers' Evening                                 | 11/11/2024     | 18/11/2024     |
| Primary Pupils Phone Calls                                          | 11+12/11/2024  | 18+19/11/2024  |
| Year 7,8,9 Flu Innoculations                                        | 13/11/2024     | 4/12/2024      |
| Year 10 and 11 Flu Innoculations                                    | 14/11/2024     | 5/12/2024      |
| Year 10 Mock Oral Examination                                       | w/c 11/11/2024 | w/c 18/11/2024 |
| Year 10 Welsh Oral Examination                                      | w/c 18/11/2024 | w/c 25/11/2024 |
| Governing Body Curriculum, Standards and Staffing Committee Meeting | 13/11/2024     | 4/12/2024      |

# School Uniform

Following collecting the opinions of pupils, staff and you as parents and carers, we held an additional meeting of the school's governing body back in September in order to consider any alterations to the policy. Following on from that meeting, recommendations were presented to the full Governing Body on the 8th of October and the changes below were agreed for September 2025.

We are proud that we are able to present you with a school uniform policy which considers all stakeholders' views but is also affordable. There will be a 12 month transition between September 2025 and September 2026 as we move from one policy to another.

## Nursery to Year 6 (From September 2025)

|                       |                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sweatshirt / Cardigan | Red with school logo                                                                                           |
| Polo shirt            | Yellow with school logo                                                                                        |
| Trousers or skirt     | Plain black                                                                                                    |
| Shoe                  | Plain black                                                                                                    |
| Summer Dress          | Red Gingham dresses<br>Plain tailored black shorts                                                             |
| PE Clothing           | Red sports shirt with school logo<br>Black shorts<br>Black daps or trainers                                    |
| Coat                  | A sensible coat of the appropriate thickness for the weather.<br>Coats should not be worn inside the building. |
| Jewellery             | One stud in the ear / in both ears                                                                             |
| Hair                  | Natural style and colour that doesn't distract                                                                 |

## Year 7 – 11

|                    |                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sweater / Cardigan | Black with school logo or official school fleece with school logo                                                                                   |
| Shirt / Blousen    | Long sleeve plain white                                                                                                                             |
| Tie                | Official tie in school colours                                                                                                                      |
| Trousers or skirt  | Plain black (No jeans or leggings, no tube style skirts). Skirts to be no more than 10cm above the knee.                                            |
| Shoe               | Leather, black plain. No boots, no canvas shoes.                                                                                                    |
| Summer Dress       | Red polo shirt with school logo as option                                                                                                           |
| PE Clothing        | Official Red and black sports shirt with school logo<br>Plain black Shorts / Skirt or plain black leggings.<br>PE red and black socks and trainers. |
| Coat               | A sensible coat of the appropriate thickness for the weather.<br>Coats should not be worn inside the building. No denim or leather jackets.         |
| Jewellery          | One stud in the ear / in both ears. No other visible jewellery including nose piercings.                                                            |
| Make-up            | Minimal natural makeup. No acrylic nails and no eyelash extensions.                                                                                 |
| Hair               | Natural style and colour that doesn't distract                                                                                                      |

## Year 12 and 13

|                    |                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sweater / Cardigan | Black with school logo or official black 6th form fleece                                                                                    |
| Shirt / Blousen    | Long sleeve plain white                                                                                                                     |
| Tie                | Dark red with school logo                                                                                                                   |
| Trousers or skirt  | Plain black (No jeans or leggings, no tube style skirts). Skirts to be no more than 10cm above the knee.                                    |
| Shoe               | Leather, black plain. No boots, no canvas shoes.                                                                                            |
| Summer Dress       | Blue 6th form polo shirt with school logo as option                                                                                         |
| PE Clothing        | Red and black sports shirt with school logo<br>Black shorts and trainers                                                                    |
| Coat               | A sensible coat of the appropriate thickness for the weather.<br>Coats should not be worn inside the building. No denim or leather jackets. |
| Jewellery          | Sensible jewellery that is not distracting. No nose piercings.                                                                              |
| Make-up            | Minimal natural makeup. No acrylic nails and no eyelash extensions.                                                                         |
| Hair               | Natural style and colour that doesn't distract                                                                                              |

## Remember!!

**Shoes:** We will not allow pupils who wear work "boots" e.g. Redback into the school building from September. We are happy to accept plain black shoes or black leather trainers but sports shoes and canvas trainers are not acceptable.

**Skirts and Trousers:** Skirts need to be of reasonable length above the knee (no more than 10cm). Tube style skirts are not accepted. Trousers should be tailored school trousers, no leggings or tracksuit bottoms.

**Hair, Jewellery and Make-up.** One stud in the ear / two ears. No other jewellery on show including in the nose. Natural makeup - no acrylic nails or eyelash extensions. Hair of a natural colour and style.



LINK TO POLICY FOR SEPT 2025

# NATIONAL SUCCESSSES!

Congratulations to Leri ond her success in the kayaking world.

Leri is the Welsh champion under 10, 11 and 12!! Amazing!



Congratulations to Steffan and Bronwen for being selected to be part of the Welsh Sailing Squad for 2024-25. Best of luck!

Congratulations to Alaw and Lily for being chosen to the Welsh Women's BGC Rugby Squad. Go for it girls!



# Pupil Voice



The new forums offer an opportunity for pupils to voice their opinions on various aspects involving the school, local and global community. This is where discussions and decisions about activities to promote the key message of the forums are made and we look forward to seeing these activities come to fruition,



The community and humanitarian forum aims to develop pupils knowledge of the challenges facing our community and other communities worldwide and through this, identify means of supporting them including the use of charitable means.

Over £250 was raised during the Macmillan coffee morning for staff and 6th form.

Children in Need - 15/11/24



The Eco and Environment forum discusses issues involving the natural and man-made environment and considers ways to improve and enrich the school's environment as well as other environments further afield.

The forum have decided to follow the Crisp Packet Project Campaign where old crisp packets are recycled to create blankets for the homeless. Bring your crisp packets to school by the start of December.



The equality and wellbeing forum considers matters involving inclusion and equality in order to aim for a fully inclusive Ysgol Bro Teifi where every pupil feels appreciated, is heard and is respected.

The Forum wishes to set up a buddy system between younger and older pupils in the school.

They also want to raise awareness of different conditions as well as raising awareness of days which promote diversity..



The Welsh forum discusses ways to promote Welsh heritage and culture and also means of providing opportunities for pupils to develop pride in the Welsh language.

The school's pupils have completed the Welsh Charter questionnaire and the Forum has analysed the results.

25/10/24 - Coch, Gwyn a Gwyrdd Day

- visit by Mr Urdd
- Raise the profile of Welsh music amongst pupils



The Teaching and Learning forum gives pupils an opportunity to discuss their learning experiences and offer ideas on how to enrich their experiences in the classroom further.

The forum wishes to set up a subject buddy system - a chance for 6th form students to support younger pupils with subject skills and revision..

# Shool Priorities 2024-25

Please see below the school's development priorities this year. We have agreed on these priorities following collecting information about the school over the past 12 months, including a parent/carer survey. On the next page, you will see some ideas as to how you can support the school on our continuous journey of improvement.

BLAENORIAETHAU BRO TEIFI - 24/25

BRO TEIFI PRIORITIES - 24/25

1

DATBLYGU MEDRAU DISGYBLION ER MWYN SICRHAU CYNNYDD PARHAUS  
DEVELOP PUPILS' SKILLS IN ORDER TO ENSURE CONTINUOUS PROGRESS



2

GWEITHREDU DATBLYGIADAU PELLACH I GWRICWLWM YR YSGOL  
IMPLEMENT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS TO THE CURRICULUM



3

GWELLA LEFELAU PRESENOLDEB DYSGWYR AR DRAWS YR YSGOL  
IMPROVE PUPIL ATTENDANCE ACROSS THE SCHOOL



4

GWREIDDIO ARFERION ADDYSGEG CADARN AR DRAWS YR YSGOL  
EMBED GOOD TEACHING ACROSS THE SCHOOL



5

DATBLYGU YMHELLACH STRATEGAETH LLESIANT YR YSGOL  
DEVELOP FURTHER THE SCHOOL'S WELLBEING STRATEGY



6

DATBLYGU YMHELLACH ARWEINWYR AR BOB LEFEL YN YR YSGOL  
DEVELOP FURTHER LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS IN THE SCHOOL



## *Oni Heuir, Ni Fedir*

## **Sut gallwch fel rhieni/gofalwyr ein cefnogi i gylawni ein blaenoriaethau?**

***How can you as parents/carers support us in meeting our priorities?***

- Annog eich plant i gymryd rhan weithredol yng nghwricwlwm yr ysgol
- Gwneud yn siŵr fod eich plant yn mynychu'r ysgol yn rheolaidd ac yn barod i ddysgu (gwisg gywir, offer cywir a.y.b.).
- Cysylltu gyda'r ysgol yn syth os nad yw eich plentyn yn gallu mynychu.
- Osgoi tynnu plant allan o'r ysgol e.e. ar wyliau adeg tymor.
- Ceisiwch trefnu apwyntiadau meddygol tu allan i oriau ysgol.
- Cefnogi eich plant i baratoi ar gyfer asesiadau, profion ac arholiadau allanol drwy sicrhau amser priodol ar gyfer paratoi a gofod tawel i ddysgu adref.
- Annog eich plant i ddarllen adref ac, i rieni plant iau, darllen gyda nhw adref yn ddyddiol.
- Ymarfer tablau a sillafu yn aml adref er mwyn atgyfnerthu sgiliau sylfaenol.
- Mynychu pob noson rieni er mwyn deall yn well sut gallwch gefnogi eich plentyn i lwyddo.
- Monitro gwaith cartref eich plentyn a sicrhau eu bod yn cwblhau'r gwaith ar amser ac i safon dda.
- Cyfathrebu gyda arweinwyr yr ysgol drwy e-bost neu ffon os oes rhywbeth yn eich poeni.
- Annog eich plentyn i siarad gyda chi yn agored adref os oes rhywbeth yn eu poeni.
- Annog eich plentyn i gymryd rhan weithredol mewn gweithgareddau llais y disgybl yn yr ysgol
- Monitro ymddygiad a llwyddiannau eich plant ar Edulink a chefnogi polisïau'r ysgol wrth ymwneud a'r materion uchod.
- Cyfrannu at weithgareddau llais rhieni/gofalwyr (e.e. holiaduron barn).
- Annog eich plentyn i ddatblygu agwedd bositif at yr ysgol ac at addysg yn gyffredinol.
- Encourage your children to be actively involved in the school's curriculum.
- Make sure your children attend school regularly and are ready to learn (correct uniform and resources etc.).
- Contact the school immediately if your child is unable to attend.
- Avoid taking children out of school e.g. on holidays during term time.
- Try to schedule medical appointments outside of school hours.
- Support your children to prepare for external assessments, tests and exams by ensuring appropriate time for preparation and a quiet space to learn at home.
- Encourage your children to read at home and, for parents of younger children, read with them at home daily.
- Practice times tables and spelling regularly at home to reinforce basic skills.
- Attend every parents' evening to better understand how you can support your child to succeed.
- Monitor your child's homework and ensure they complete the work on time and to a good standard.
- Communicate with school leaders by email or phone if something is bothering you.
- Encourage your child to talk to you openly at home if something is bothering them.
- Encourage your child to be actively involved in pupil voice activities at school
- Monitor your children's behaviour and successes on Edulink and support school policies in relation to the above.
- Contribute to parent/carers voice activities (e.g. questionnaires).
- Encourage your child to develop a positive attitude to school and to education in general.

# **#TîmBroTeifi**

# ANTI - BULLYING

**The wellbeing of our pupils is a priority for us here at Ysgol Bro Teifi**

If you or your child have any concerns about a child's wellbeing, including incidences of bullying, there are several ways of letting us know such as..



Clicking the 'Botwm Becso' on our website. Fill the details and someone will get back to you..



Email the school and we will arrange a callback or a meeting :

[swyddfa@ysgolbroteifi.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:swyddfa@ysgolbroteifi.ceredigion.sch.uk)



**We will continue to raise awareness of the anti-bullying message, including during the National Anti-Bullying week in November. We also continue to promote our Core Values of Respect (Parch), Equity (Tegwch) and Kindness (Caredigrwydd).**



**TEGWCH**



**CAREDIGRWYDD**





YSGOL BRO TEIFI'S

# Christmas Fair

NOVEMBER  
THURSDAY | 28 | 5pm - 7pm

VARIOUS STALLS  
&  
SANTA'S GROTTO

TO BOOK A TABLE PLEASE PHONE THE  
SCHOOL  
01559362503  
OR  
E-MAIL  
[swyddfa@broteifi.ceredigion.sch.uk](mailto:swyddfa@broteifi.ceredigion.sch.uk)



# Careers

Several activities to promote Careers and the World of Work Education have happened during this first half term including the 'Confident Communicators' workshop for Year 13 followed by mock interviews. IN addition, Year 11 have been part of a CV writing workshop with 'Cynllun Profi' and their mock interviews will take place on the 4th of February 2025.

Careers Wales have lots of really useful information and resources for parent to support you in helping your child to explore their future career options.



Go to <https://careerswales.gov.wales/parents> for further information

**FFAIR GYRFAOEDD**  
14 Tachwedd 2024 5yh-7yh  
yn Ysgol Bro Teifi, Llandysul.

Dewch i siarad â phrifysgolion, colegau, busnesau, cyflogwyr... Bydd gwybodaeth am amrywiaeth o swyddi a gyrfaedd.

**Mae hwn yn ddigwyddiad agored. Croeso i bawb.**

**CAREERS FAIR**  
14 November 2024 5pm-7pm  
at Ysgol Bro Teifi, Llandysul.

Come and speak to the universities, colleges, businesses, employers... You will be able to gain information about a variety of jobs and careers.

**This is an open event. Everyone welcome.**

If you are an employer and would like to take part in our Careers Fair, please contact Mrs Alwen Thomas to arrange a stand/table  
ThomasA695@broteifi.ceredigion.sc.uk



# Celebrating Important Days

## EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY!

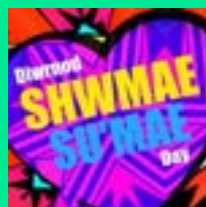
Our GCSE Spanish students organised various activities to Celebrate European Languages Day including interactive digital activities, a quiz and a chance to taste some European foods. Delicioso!



## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Our Year 12 Health and Social Care Students set up a stand to raise awareness about Mental Health. for World Mental Health Day.

Their main message stressed the importance of setting aside some time for us to enjoy things that make us happy and that it's ok not to be ok. There is always someone out there to help.



Thank you to the 6th Form Pupils for filming our annual Su'mae Shmwae Day video. Thank you to the local businesses in Llandysul for joining in on the fun!



# WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS



1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much but.....

**95%**

This equals =  
9 days missed  
18 missed sessions  
1.4 missed weeks  
45 missed lessons

**90%**

This equals =  
19 days missed  
38 missed sessions  
3.4 missed weeks  
95 missed lessons

**80%**

This equals =  
36 days missed  
72 missed sessions  
7.1 missed weeks  
180 missed lessons

**70%**

This equals =  
57 days missed  
114 missed sessions  
11.2 missed weeks  
285 missed lessons

**65%**

This equals =  
67 days missed  
134 missed sessions  
13.2 missed weeks  
335 missed lessons

# Things to try when your child refuses schools



## FRIENDSHIP AND SOCIAL INTERACTION

Remind them that school is an important place to meet friends, 'stay in touch' with what their peers are doing, as well as developing skills to deal with uncomfortable situations. Losing this important social link to school may add to existing worries and deny them key opportunities to learning how to deal with everyday social problems.

## CLEAR MESSAGES

The question must be not if the child is going to school but when they will be going. Ensure that your child is aware that the expectation is that they attend school. Setting clear expectations avoids confusion and blurred boundaries but also increases the chances of the child achieving the goals set for them.

## BE HONEST

Use statements such as 'I feel...' or 'When you refuse, it makes me feel...'. Using these statements is a positive way of letting your child know how you're feeling. It allows them to consider things from your point of view. Explaining to your child how you feel when you have a meeting or a letter from the school / local authority will help them realise how the situation impacts on you.

## LOOK AT POSITIVES

Acknowledging positive successes is important. Focus on the good things e.g. school friends, favourite subjects etc. Use statements such as 'I know you can do it' 'You've done it before, you can do it again' or 'we've discussed this. What do you need to do next?' These statements will encourage the child to confront rather than avoid the source of their worries.

## FEELING ILL

Your child may complain of headaches, stomach pains, feeling sick. It is important to establish that they do not actually have a serious ongoing illness them preventing them being at school.

## BEING ORGANISED

Make sure you are organised in order to get your child to school on time. Many pupils can be easily embarrassed if they arrive late to class which then affects their focus. You may also need to ensure that enough time is allocated for showers, breakfast etc. Other good habits would include negotiating a reasonable 'school day' curfew.

## REWARDING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Rewarding positive behaviour is essential for reinforcing good school attendance. By acknowledging your child getting up on time, getting dressed without a fuss, arriving in school on time will encourage them to repeat these behaviours. Sometimes praise and acknowledgment is enough for children.

Rewards do not need to be costly e.g. cook their favourite meal.

## WORKING TOGETHER

We recognise that everyone's situation is different.

If you feel that there are situations in your life or your child's life that prevent them from attending school/attending on time, you can get advice and support from your school or the Local Authority. We are all here to help and support you.

To speak to the Local Authority contact 01545 570881 and ask to speak to someone from the Education Inclusion Service.

# School Essentials Grant

Parents of children who live in low income households and who receive certain benefits can apply for

**£125 for each learner!**

**(£200 to those starting in Year 7 in order to meet the higher costs associated with moving to secondary education)**

Every statutory school year from Reception to Year 11 are now eligible. Families can make one application per child, once, for every school year. h

The 2024-25 grant cycle is now open and closes on the 31st of May 2024. Follow the link below to learn more:



<https://www.gov.wales/school-essentials-grant-help-school-costs>

